

Dispatch

A I R L I F T

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Vol. 41, No. 26

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, July 5, 2002



Staff Sgt. Lurline Blanchard, 315th Aero-medical Dental Squadron, helps create panic after an exercise bomb went off at the North Charleston Coliseum.

Burning, bleeding bodies everywhere

Coliseum bombed in exercise; 437 AW comes to rescue

Story and photos by
Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Three fake bombs were set off at the North Charleston Coliseum June 29, shortly after 10 a.m., and the 437th Airlift Wing was there to help.

The Charleston County Emergency Preparedness Team set up an exercise that tested the local communities emergencies services response. The Charleston County EPT called on members of Team Charleston to assist in the 'emergency.'

"It was a weapons of mass destruction exercise in which the scenario was that while there was a large crowd at the Coliseum, a terrorist set



Volunteers play victim roles following an exercise bombing at the North Charleston Coliseum. Team Charleston members helped with the victim's make up.

See BOMB, page 8

Bloomin' Onion request lands 6,000 steaks in Kandahar

By Staff Sgt.
Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

A contingent of 15 Outback Steakhouse employees from across America traveled to Kandahar, Afghanistan, June 17 with food in tow to cook for the coalition forces deployed there.

On the flight between Ramstein AB, Germany, and Kandahar, Lt. Col. Gary Goldstone, 17th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron vice commander, described the delivery as a big surprise.

"This mission is special," Goldstone said. "We're delivering about 6,000 steaks to people who have been eating MREs (Meals Ready to Eat) for the last three-six months. The look on their faces should be telling."

A lot of planning went into the mission, which sprang from an idea of Outback Steakhouse, Inc.'s Chief Executive Officer.

"It all started when the CEO met with Gen. Tommy Franks (United States Central Command commander) at a social

event," said Dave Ellis, director of research and development for Outback. "He said he wanted to get Bloomin' Onions to the troops."

Franks agreed with the idea, and United States Central Command coordinated with Outback to move the people and food to Kandahar via a Charleston-based C-17. The company sent enough ribeye steaks, filets, baked potatoes, french fries, onions, cheesecake and grilled shrimp to feed more than 6,000 people.

"We wanted to contribute in some way, to say 'thank you,'" Ellis said. "The way we know how to do that is with food."

The Outback staff, made up of service and food technicians, led teams of 10 coalition military personnel in preparing the huge cookout.

"We expected it to be rough environment," said Ellis. "I've been impressed. Everybody's been so nice to us. We were all stuck in the tent with nothing to do the first day we got here, but a tour was arranged for us, and we learned all

about the base and how everything works."

Other members of the Outback staff were also impressed with the troops at Kandahar.

"It's amazing," said Demi-Jon Merlina, a service technician from Phoenix, Ariz. "It gives me a new respect for our troops. I mean we have the luxury of knowing we're going home. Some of these guys have been here for six months. I just thank God there are men and women willing to do this for our country."

Merlina said the friendliness of the troops really overwhelmed him.

"I thought we were supposed to be the hospitality experts, but everyone here's been so good to us, I wonder who the experts really are," said Merlina.

According to Army Chief Warrant Officer 2nd Class John Dale, Task Force food advisor at Kandahar, a valuable experience presented itself to the teams of military personnel working with the Outbackers.

"They're loving it," Dale

said. "They're very excited to be given the chance to learn. It also gives Outback a chance to see how the Army does food service. It's a learning experience for both of them."

Dale also pointed out that the whole operation couldn't work without help from a variety of sources, including the Air Force and Canadian military forces at Kandahar.

"A whole lot of people came together to make this work," Dale said. "I'm thankful for all the help."

This isn't the first time Outback Steakhouse volunteered to help out the nation's heroes. Immediately following the terrorist attacks Sept. 11, the New York City franchise set up shop in New Jersey and ferried hot meals across the harbor to feed hungry workers sorting through the rubble for survivors.

After three days of ferrying food, the city granted the franchise permission to set up operations at Ground Zero, Smith said. From there, volunteers from Outback Steakhouses throughout the Northeast served up hot

sandwiches, taking tubs of food to areas where firemen and police officers refused to give up the search.

"I was grateful for the chance to actually do something in a time of crisis, when so many Americans wanted to," said Smith.

The meal was a welcome change to soldiers and airmen alike, whose daily meals consist of MREs, MREs and more MREs.

"I think everyone at Charleston AFB should go out to dinner at least once at Outback," said Senior Airman Kenneth Wicklund, 437th Maintenance Squadron Aerospace Ground Equipment Flight, deployed to Kandahar in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. "It's a way to say thanks in return."

Other Team Charleston members agreed.

"I really appreciated it, and it was excellent food," said Tech. Sgt. Henry Haskell, 315th Maintenance Squadron AGE Flight. "It was really a great gesture and the perfect way to say thanks. It meant a lot to all of us."

COMMENTARY

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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The deadline for submitting stories for space-available publication is noon Friday, preceding the desired publication date. The *Airlift Dispatch* reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.

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Classified advertisements may be referred to Diggle Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 2014, Mount Pleasant, S.C., 29465, Phone: (843) 972-2357 or e-mailed to patsydid@aol.com. Classified advertisements are free, with the exception of personal business ads, for active duty military members and their spouses, retirees and Reservists.

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Great people make our mission happen

By Col. Brooks Bash
437 AW commander

Charleston AFB is a great place! The people are professional, friendly and always positive about their jobs. The mission of this wing is vital to our nation, and our people are doing a great job of supporting it in a safe and confident manner.

I visited Headquarters Air Mobility Command at Scott AFB, Ill., this past week and met with several functional area representatives. Every organization at the headquarters was complimentary; almost wax poetic about CAFB and the competence of its people. The comment I often heard was that we never have a problem with Charleston AFB. Needless to say, I was pleased to hear this feedback, but it didn't surprise me from what I have seen in the last four weeks.

Gen. John Handy, Commander of U.S. Transportation Command and AMC, was also very complimentary of the work that CAFB does in supporting the mission. He used the words, "It is a miracle what Charleston has accomplished in the war on terrorism." In my opinion, the 437th and 315th Airlift Wings did not accomplish a miracle, but simply applied professionalism and expertise to get the job done.

Indeed, Gen. Handy is planning to visit the base in late August to present the AMC Gen. Joseph Smith Trophy for best airlift squadron to the 14th Airlift Squadron. I am certainly proud to show him our base.

I appreciate the effort our squadron commanders and people are paying to base appearance. CAFB is a beautiful base, and your individual efforts all contribute to keeping our appearance at a high level.

I was pleased with the Major Accident Response Exercise held June 27. The exercise, conducted by the Inspector General Office and approximately 25 Exercise Evaluator Team members, provided the wing with excellent training.

The scenario involved an attempted entry of a tractor-trailer loaded with explosives at the Rivers Gate. Staff Sgt. Cynthia Brown, 437th Security Forces Squadron dog handler, and her dog, Liz, took the proper measures that identified the simulated explosive device, quickly caught the bad guys and calmly notified the appropriate agencies. She did everything right and was one of the many outstanding professional performers during the day-long exercise. Thank you – all security forces – for keeping us safe.



Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, presents Staff Sgt. Kristi Burton, 373rd Training Squadron Detachment 5, with an ATWIND prize at the wing staff meeting Monday. Burton won two U.S. Airways tickets, valued up to \$1,600, for travel anywhere within the continental United States and Canada.

The second part of the exercise allowed the tractor-trailer entry to the base with several 55-gallon drums of a simulated known chemical agent with a bomb attached. Our emergency agencies responded quickly. The exercise provided excellent preparation and training should a terrorist attack occur and served as a good reminder that we need to watch for suspicious activity to protect our people and resources.

I was impressed with the spirit and attendance of the NCO Induction Ceremony and monthly promotion ceremony June 28. I had a great time! In addition, congratulations to those staff and technical sergeants who were selected for promotion this past week. Your studying paid off. Many of the major selects listed in last week's paper were also selected for Intermediate Service School. They are Jonathan Bakonyi, James Copher, John Lamontagne, William Spangenthal, Glen Goss, Joseph Trechter, and Nathan Gary. Congratulations.

I was excited to be a part of the Retiree Appreciation Day and Information Fair at the Charleston Club this past Saturday. The event was successful and a great avenue to present valuable information to our retiree population. U.S. Congressman Henry Brown, 1st District, was our guest speaker. Thanks to Lt. Col. Paul Braunbeck, retired Col. Raymond Boreli, the many base agencies and our volunteers with the Retiree Activities Program for their outstanding efforts in organizing this event.

I would like to challenge everyone to stay healthy and fit. Fitness is important and can directly impact your ability to get the job done. A healthy body can help you through those stressful times and can save taxpayer money through reduced medical costs for health care. Commanders and supervisors are encouraged to allow their folks time to exercise during the duty day, mission permitting. You will see me jogging daily, or in the fitness center, several times a week. Feel free to say "hi," or you can even stop me and talk with me, I won't mind.

As previously mentioned, I want everyone to enjoy the family day on Friday, but the stipulation is that we need to be safe in everything we do, especially with a four-day holiday period for most people. Record numbers of people are expected to travel during the holiday. Please make safety and Operational Risk Management a key part of any activity, whether that is planning a boating trip or the family barbecue. I want everyone back on Monday safe. Have a great Fourth of July!

Action Line: Can a child under 10 swim with a babysitter under 18?

Q: I'm writing concerning the Air Force Instruction requiring a child under 10 years old to be with someone over 18 in order to go to the pool. I understand this is a safety concern, but as a mother, I know if my child can swim or not.

If my son, who is 8, can swim and has my permission to be at the pool with his teenage babysitter, then I believe it should be all right

for him to be there. It is hard enough to be a working mom and not be able to take your children on fun activities during the week. I'm just like every other parent trying to balance working and children. I just want my children to have an enjoyable summer vacation even though I have to work most of the time.

I understand rules and regulations but there should

be exceptions made for parents who allow their children to go to the pool with teenager babysitters under 18.

A: Thank you for your patronage of the base swimming pool. The base pool is a great place for families to enjoy the summer months. The Air Force Instruction, AFI 34-110, that guides the

operation of base swimming pools specifically requires that children 10 years of age and younger must be under the direct supervision of an individual 18 years of age or older. To help working families in your situation find babysitters, the Youth Center is making a special effort to add 18 year olds to their certified babysitters list.

IN THE NEWS

CAFB technical and master sergeant promotion list

The following Charleston AFB members received line numbers for promotion June 27.

To master sergeant:

1st Combat Camera Squadron

Carla Kippes
Thomas Szeszowicki
Darrell Williams

15th Airlift Squadron

John Todd
373rd Training Squadron
Shannon Easdale
Jonathan Ulanoff
Paul Zimmerman

437th Aerial Port Squadron

James Bailey
Edward Constable
Kevin Fitchko

Vincent Jones

Joseph Kelley

Sherri Kirk

Anthony Komara

Rodney Mayo

Leasonia McAuley

Sandra Quinones

Gary Smith

Vicki Sumlin

437th Aircraft Generation Squadron

Micheal Breedlove
David Charles
Thomas McAnallen
Michael Pawlak
Kathey Rawson

Russel Richardson

Brian Rogers

Eric Turner

Howard Whitney

Sue Wilburn

Richard Willman

437th Airlift Wing

Kenneth Barlow

Sherley Jones

Vicky Wetzel

Arthur Williams

437th Civil Engineer Squadron

Sean Bannon

Gerald Bloss

Dana Kelley

Jeffrey Schoenrock

John Spear

437th Communications Squadron

Russell Barnes

Israel Carrion

437th Contracting Squadron

Nathan McCoy

Christopher Seaman

437th Maintenance Squadron

Dale Greer



John Hooper

437th Medical Operations Squadron

Billy Jackson

John Rhodes

Karen Smith

437th Medical Support Squadron

Steven Cook

437th Mission Support Squadron

Lisa Barkman

Vanessa Smallsbryant

437th Operations Support Squadron

Joseph Arnone

437th Security Forces Squadron

William Cline

Timothy Moore

437th Services Squadron

Daniel Lotito

437th Supply Squadron

John Prato

Alan Russell

437th Transportation Squadron

Gary White

Air Force Combat Climatology Center

Timothy Burke

Cary Fitzsimmons

Troy Rames

Derrick Rushdan

To technical sergeant:

1st Combat Camera Squadron

Patricia Bunting

Mark Depass

John Houghton

Piper Hudson

Bret Irwin

Lisa Jamison

Blaze Lipowski

14th Airlift Squadron

Jason Bray

William Pace

15th Airlift Squadron

Corey Clewley

Christopher Pack

Daniel Torgerson

17th Airlift Squadron

Keven Hunt

Trevor Smith

Anthony Viventi

373rd Training Squadron

David Glessner

David Walters

412th Test Wing

George Cassiano

437th Services Squadron

Derrick Jones

437th Aerial Port Squadron

Harold Allison

Troy Dion

Willis Holt



Marrian James

Charles Jones

Bradley Kirk

Joseph Klapperich

Gaither Moore

Mark Pettis

Michael Stephens

Tharin Thomas

Jams Vis

Marin Zamora

437th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

Scott Archer

Brien Dolphin

Cassie Isom

437th Aircraft Generation Squadron

Christopher Bates

Brian Copes

Patrick Dumka

Rodger Folkerts

Joseph Grillo

Jason Haugh

Edward Hood

Israel Pinero

Kevin Potts

Michael Quintana

Daniel Small

Cletis Woodring

437th Airlift Wing

Bart Craven

437th Civil Engineer Squadron

Ronda Cooper

Jonathan Estrada

James Robb

Darren Schenck

Thomas Smith

James Washington

437th Communications Squadron

Will Brown

Ann Chan

Shawn Derrick

Richard Kaminsky

Karen Wenner

437th Comptroller Squadron

Leda Feaster

Richard Hamlett

Maurice Isom

437th Logistics Group

Margaret Arrasmith

Aaron Delapena

437th Logistics Support Squadron

Joseph Gardner

Andrew Korpi

Raymond Phreaner

Clayton Powell

Joseph Thomas

437th Maintenance Squadron

David Bishop

John Carpenter

Charles Duke

Robert Elk

Keith Green

William Koger

Willie Meiers

David Perkins

Michael Pizzi

Ronald Steward

437th Medical Operations Squadron

Elsie Graham

Anthony Milunas

437th Medical Support Squadron

Bradley Fraser

Angela McVane

Delvin Sparrow

Ernest Walters

Britian Yocam

437th Mission Support Squadron

Troy Jarrell

437th Operations Group

Keith Briggs

Patrick Fortune

437th Operations Support Squadron

Alan Campbell

Alfred Cook

Nancy Deacon

Wes Robinson

Robert Sadwick

Chad Smith

437th Security Forces Squadron

David Bailey

Amy Giner

Michele Graves

Richard Lane

Louis Mion

Jeffrey Wagner

David White

437th Supply Squadron

Craig Baker

Mark Bowers

Kenneth Clinton

Winfield Hinkley

Valerie Hubbard

Ronald Jones

Thomas McPeak

Ralf Pietzsch

Reginald Powell

Tyrone Robinson

Connie Sims

Derrick Walden

Larry Whenrey

437th Transportation Squadron

Timothy Ard

Jason Hodges

Todd Robb

Graham Vitalis

Air Force Combat Climatology Center

Scott Houston

Tomothy Legg

Kyle Mathers

Ricky Palmer

Richard Wright



Robert Block (left), a representative from the Disabled Veteran's Association, talks to Alice Jean-Charles, an Air Force retiree, at the Retiree Appreciation Day and Information Fair Saturday.

Retirees receive helpful information

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Approximately 300 retirees turned out for the Retiree Appreciation Day and Information Fair at the Charleston Club Saturday.

More than 30 booths were set up offering a variety of information about benefits and entitlements for military retirees. Representatives were on hand from off-base and on-base organizations.

The day began with opening remarks from Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander and guest speaker, Rep. Henry Brown, R-SC.

The retirees were also shuttled to the flightline for an up-close look at a C-17 Globemaster III.

The event concluded with three Year of the Warrior Spirit PowerPoint presentations.

NEWS BRIEFS

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry

Staff Sgt. Pablo Hernandez 437th Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. Pablo Hernandez is an aircraft structure maintenance craftsman in the 437th Maintenance Squadron.

"Basically, we preserve the aircraft by maintaining the sheet metal structure on the plane," said Hernandez.

Hernandez said his flight works on everything on the aircraft that has to do with the frame, to include the wings and the floor. His flight also fabricates parts of the aircraft. They are responsible to either buy or make all of the markings on the aircraft.

A native of Puerto Rico, Hernandez started out his military career by serving in the Air National Guard for two years. He transferred to the Air Force Reserves in 1996. Although normally assigned to the 315th Maintenance Squadron, Hernandez was activated Oct. 7, and has been assigned to the 437 MXS ever since.

Before activation, he called Kissimmee, Fla., home, and enjoyed fishing on his boat and spending time with his wife, Mirian, who is from the Dominican Republic. Hernandez said they enjoy traveling to their native countries.

Currently, Hernandez is working with other 437 MXS people to restore the aircraft static display on Arthur Drive.

"The favorite part of my job is what we are doing now," Hernandez said. "After we're done, it'll look good for 10 years, and you will be able to see the finished product. When we work on C-17s they are out and flying, and you don't see a finished project. You don't get closure with the C-17s. It'll be nice to see it finished and have the job satisfaction."

welcome. For more information, call 963-4575 or 1-800-366-9699, ext. 6455.

Civilian jobs: The Palace Acquire Intern Program open season for outstanding scholars is July 15-Aug. 2. Students with at least a 3.45 grade point average who are looking for a government job can apply through the program during this time. For more information, go to www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cp/recruit.

Chiefs' group: The Charleston AFB Chiefs' Group will hold a monthly meeting July 18, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. All chiefs and chief selects are invited.



Workshop: The Life Skills Support Center is presenting the Building Your Self-Confidence Workshop, July 25, noon, at the Family Support Center. The workshop will teach methods of developing confidence. To register, call Airman 1st Class Tonita Edney at 963-6852.

AFSA: The Air Force Sergeants Association holds a meeting the second Tuesday of every month, 4 p.m., at the Charleston Club. AFSA has more than 155,000 members and advocates improved quality-of-life and economic fairness for enlisted personnel and their families. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Tundra Gatewood at 963-6901.

Closing: The Consignment Shop is closed for a summer break. The store will reopen Aug. 1. Once it reopens, the shop will resume normal hours; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tuesday 6-8 p.m.; and the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The shop is located in Bldg. 203 on Graves Avenue.

Family Support Center

Pre-deployment Briefing: Daily, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Educational Opportunities Counseling: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Deployment for Children and Parents: Wednesday, 1-2:30 p.m.

Newcomers Tour: Thursday and July 18, 8:15 a.m.-3 p.m.

Investing A-Z Part I: July 12, 1-4 p.m.

TAP 3-Day Workshop: July 16-18, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Car Buying Workshop: July 16, 1-3 p.m.

Investing A-Z Part II: July 19, 8-11 a.m.

Troops-to-Teachers: July 22, 10-11 a.m.

Positive Attitude: July 24, 10-11:30 a.m.

Smooth Move Workshop: July 25, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

All workshops are held at the FSC unless otherwise noted. For more information, call 963-4406.

Spotlight

Day off: Today has been designated a minimum manning day for active-duty military members. Civilian employees who chose not to work will be authorized liberal leave, subject to their supervisor's approval.

Change of command: The 14th Airlift Squadron is hosting a change-of-command ceremony July 12, 3 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Lt. Col. Steven Groenheim will assume command from Lt. Col. William Changose. All Team Charleston members are invited.

Farewell: Say "goodbye" to Chief Master Sgt. Harvey Hampton, 437th Airlift Wing command chief master sergeant, at a barbecue July 16, 6 p.m., at the Nose Dock. The cost is \$5 for E-1 through E-4, \$7 for E-5 and E-6, and \$10 for E-7 and above. RSVP by July 9 by calling Master Sgt. Matt Harless at 963-8004 or Tech Sgt. Geri Shaffer at 963-5493.

SNCO: There will be a senior NCO induction ceremony July 18, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. The dress is semi-formal for military members and business attire for civilians. The cost is \$18 for club members and \$21 for non-members. To attend, contact a master sergeant select or Master Sgt. Ken Gilmore at 963-5630.

Change of command: The 437th

Logistics Support Squadron is hosting a change-of-command ceremony July 24, 10 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Maj. Andrea Rupp will assume command from Lt. Col. Chris Hair. For more information, call 1st Lt. Aaron Rivers at 963-7104.

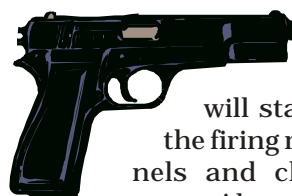
Around the base

Closing: The base housing office will be closed today. For emergencies, call the fire department at 963-3777.

Parenting: The Base Clinic is offering a free, six-session parenting class. Classes will start Tuesday and run from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for six consecutive Tuesdays. To register, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6503.

CCOC: Registration for the City Colleges of Chicago Term I runs Wednesday-Aug. 8. A variety of classes will be offered. For more information, call 552-5959.

Warrior day: Thursday is the Year of the Warrior Spirit Warrior Day. Round 2 of the warrior skills competition will start at 8 a.m. at the firing range for a colonels and chiefs shooting contest. Also at 8 a.m., the air base ground defense skills contest will start at the ATSO range. In the base theater at 3 p.m., the 1st Combat



Camera Squadron will show rare footage of the war against terrorism. Most of the footage is not publicly released, so only military and DOD civilians will be allowed to attend.

Vendor day: The 437th Contracting Squadron is sponsoring the 4th Annual Purchase Card Vendor Day Thursday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Various small businesses from the area will have their products on display.

Photo display: The 1st Combat Camera Squadron will be presenting photo stories of Operation Enduring Freedom at the Summerville Visitor Center July 12-14. The visitor center is at 402 North Main St., Ste. C. Show times are: July 12, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; July 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; and July 14, 1-4 p.m.

AAHC: The African American Heritage Council is holding a membership drive during July. The council will meet July 12 and 24, 11:30 a.m., in the Wings Bar at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Denese Bellamy at 963-2262 or Tech. Sgt. Steven Beasley at 963-5082.

UOP: A representative from the University of Phoenix Online Campus will be available July 15, 11 a.m., at the Community Education Center. Anyone interested in learning about the UOP Online program is

IN THE NEWS

First 6 pay tribute to veterans with hospital visit, VCR

Story and photo by
Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Members of Charleston AFB's enlisted force visited the Ralph H. Johnson Veteran Affairs' Hospital June 26.

The First 6 cheered up many of the veterans, said Staff Sgt. Keith Cedergren, 437th Airlift Wing Command Post Training NCO and the First 6's VA representative.

"To go down and see (the veterans), it really brightens their day, because some of them don't have anything, and this makes them feel good," said Cedergren. "It's a good thing to visit and spend time giving tribute to those who paved the way for those of us who serve in the Armed Forces today."

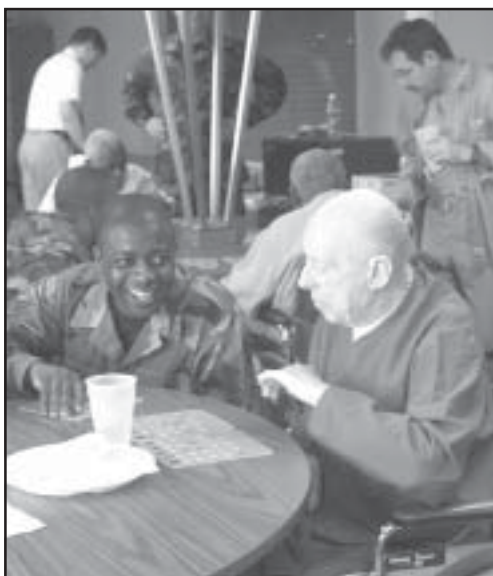
Cedergren said the veterans like the visits from the young airmen because it reminds them of when they were in the military. The veterans

said they enjoy sharing information about their military career.

"I have the same job now, that I had when I was in the service," said Herb Williams, an Air Force veteran who served from 1954-1974. "I was a recruiter and career advisor. If I get to the (potential recruits), they usually join. I'm still a career advisor for people around here."

Another veteran, Larry Fitzgerald, was in the Army Air Corps.

He served in World War II, from 1942-



Staff Sgt. Davis Elland, 437th Communications Squadron and Larry Fitzgerald, former Army Corps member, play bingo during a June 26 visit to the Ralph H. Johnson Veteran Affairs' Hospital.

It's not just reading about it in the PFE (Promotion Fitness Examination),

1943, as an enlisted troop. When asked what service he served in, although it was the Army Air Corps, he proudly says "the Air Force."

Airmen can get a lot out of the visit to the VA hospital, said Cedergren.

"Heritage; they are a direct reflection on our heritage," Cedergren said. "Everything airmen do today has been done by these people before their time."

you get to see it right in front of you." During this trip, the First 6 fed the veterans pizza and presented a VCR and videotapes to them.

The First 6 has sponsored many trips to the hospital in the past and continue to pursue ways to show those who have served that they are still in the minds of military presently serving. Current plans involve a trip to the VA hospital in Columbia, S.C., around September, and another trip to the Ralph H. Johnson hospital here during December.

Although the First 6 remembers those in need, their main focus is on military members E-6 and below. The next event will be a barbecue July 19, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at the base picnic grounds, which is free for all E-6s and below.

The First 6 holds a monthly meeting, usually the fourth Friday of every month, 2 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Everyone is welcome to the meetings.

BOMB

continued from page 1

off a bomb," said Master Sgt. David Hunt, 437 AW Inspector General superintendent. "It tested the local community's ability to respond."

Similar to Charleston AFB's exercises, the bombing had to be planned out. Bombs were planted and members of the 437 AW became unsuspecting victims.

The 437 MDG provided a special team to aid Charleston County Emergency Medical Services in making the victims up.

"Whenever there is an exercise, we get patients and make them look injured," said Tech. Sgt. Janet Clayton, Health and Wellness Center NCOIC and a member of the 437 MDG's moulage team. "If people don't look hurt, others don't take the exercises seriously. It was a lot of fun because we got to use our imaginations. One girl had a nail sticking out of her head."

While the moulage team made casualties and injuries, the exercise controllers were setting up the bombs and making sure things were rolling in the right direction.

"As an exercise controller, I helped make sure the ex-

ercise ran smoothly and stayed on track," Hunt said. "We set up the scene and provided the logistics for the (terrorist action). We have to keep the exercise on the right side of the road, because it can head in a different direction pretty quickly."

When the start time of 10 a.m. rolled around, the victims and bystanders began to get anxious. Then a loud explosion went off. Alarms rang throughout the Coliseum, and bodies were laid out everywhere. Within the next few hours, two secondary bombs would also go off.

Among the first responders were members of the 437 MDG, said Maj. (Dr.) Andrew Mueller, 437th Aeromedical Dental Squadron flight surgeon.

"We supported the exercise by providing an initial response team and five tri-

age teams," Mueller said. "We also supplied medical equipment, including our ambulance and our ambus, or ambulatory bus, that can carry 42 patients."

The exercise brought different agencies involved together to contain the WMD, something Hunt hopes never happens.

"We have mutual aid agreements with Charleston County to support those types of things," Hunt said. "It is possible that we would be called in for assistance, and if something happens on base, we could possibly call on Charleston County to respond. They have assets available but if they aren't available, they will call whoever they can to get the aid."

An important aspect of the exercise, Mueller said, was how it got different agencies to synchronize actions.

"The idea of the exercise was to attempt to coordinate all agencies in the Charleston County area who could be asked to respond to catastrophes," Mueller said. "It's important to be involved in the exercises, not only for our need to respond to civilian emergencies, but also for our need to have agencies respond to emergencies on or close to our base."

What could happen

According to the American Red Cross, the following things may happen after a terrorist attack such as the exercise bombing at the North Charleston Coliseum:

- There can be significant numbers of casualties or damage to buildings and the infrastructure
- Heavy law enforcement involvement at local, state and federal levels follows a terrorist attack due to the event's criminal nature
- Health and mental health resources in the affected communities can be strained to their limits, maybe even overwhelmed
- Extensive media coverage, strong public fear and international implications can continue for a prolonged period
- Workplaces and schools may be closed, and there may be restrictions on domestic and international travel
- Families or households may have to evacuate an area, avoiding roads blocked for safety reasons
- Clean-up may take many months

Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jerry Morrison

'Scorpion King'

Army Staff Sgt. Joseph Amante, 127th Headquarters and Headquarters Company Medics, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, holds a scorpion caught during jungle survival training in Thailand. The training, Cobra Gold 2002, is used to improve combat readiness and combined-joint interoperability, enhance security relationships and demonstrate the United States' resolve to support the security and humanitarian interests of allies in the region.

FEATURE

*From the front***Members of the 451 AEG working around the clock**

**Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter**
437 AW Public Affairs

At an austere airfield in the middle of the Afghani desert, Team Charleston members are working around the clock to supply and re-supply coalition forces at Kandahar International Airport.

Assigned to the 451st Aerospace Expeditionary Group, the active-duty members and reservists who work in Kandahar are responsible for helping the group fulfill its mission to support the Army, according to Capt. Jeffrey Smith, deputy commander of the 451 AEG. Smith is an active-duty member deployed from Warner Robins AFB, Ga.

"It's been a really fun assignment," Smith said. "The people have been really positive. How many people can say they've been to Afghanistan?"

"We've been the center of activity," Smith continued. "There have been really long days and a lot of hard work, but the mood remains really positive."

Col. Gary Shick, an active Air National Guard member from the 219th Red Horse Squadron out of Malmstrom AFB, Mont., is the 451 AEG commander.

"Everything has gone very smooth," Shick said. "It's been very satisfying. There are many challenges, but there always are in a combat zone."

Shick said the group's ability to surmount those challenges show in the amount of cargo moved in and out of Kandahar. Since March 9, when members of the 437th and 315th Aircraft Generation Squadrons and Maintenance Squadrons arrived at Kandahar, the group moved approximately 7,300 short tons of cargo and 21,500 passengers.

Despite the workload, people are holding up well, according to Shick.

"Most of these folks are part of the 'Generation X' everyone was so suspicious of," Shick said. A veteran of seven major deployments during a 28-year career, Shick said those suspicions are proving to be unfounded.

"These guys are as well or better than what we've seen in the past," he said. "They step up to the challenge well and are very committed."

For a generation of airmen who may expect more "creature comforts" than those who came before them, Shick said there's really no generational difference.

One of the challenges facing 451 AEG members is sand.

Sand is everywhere, not just on the ground,



Senior Airman Jeremiah Kincade, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, marshals a German aircraft at Kandahar International Airport, Afghanistan.

but filling the air and working its way into the desert camouflage uniforms of the maintainers. And that's on a good day, when sand storms aren't sweeping the tent city, blocking out the sun.

"It'll be a beautiful day, and then it turns into a scene out of 'The Mummy,'" said Senior Airman Kenneth Wicklund, 437th Maintenance Squadron Aerospace Ground Equipment Flight. "In the distance you can see it coming, like a tidal wave of sand."

All the sand in the world wasn't going to change Wicklund's mind about serving the Air Force in a combat zone.

"I was really psyched to come here," Wicklund said. "My mom freaked out, but my whole family was supportive."

When Wicklund stepped off the plane and into the desert, there wasn't much to see in the total darkness.

"When the sun came up and I could see everything, it was an experience like nothing else," said Wicklund. "I won't get to

do this anywhere else. It's definitely been nerve-wracking."

Other Team Charleston members described the scene as surreal.

"It didn't hit me until the morning after we arrived that I was actually here," said Tech. Sgt.

Henry Haskell, 315 MXS AGE technician. "It was kind of a shock to the system to actually be in Afghanistan. I didn't really think of it being a desert, and it struck me that there's really not that much out here."

Many Charleston AFB maintainers pointed out that in Kandahar, "That's not my job" isn't the thing to say. On the contrary, most AGE technicians learn to marshal and park aircraft, while crew chiefs learn a little about what AGE technicians do. Some jobs are completely different.

"I've had to do a lot of CE (civil engineer) work instead of flightline AGE," Haskell said. "We got new fridges in, and they needed wiring. Then we got the air conditioning units, so I set those up and have to keep them running."

All of this work is done under a relentless sun, with afternoon highs reaching well above 110 degrees daily. To beat the heat, the maintainers drink a lot of water and spend time in between jobs in the Air Force's air-conditioned morale tent.

Deployed personnel missed a lot of things in their three months away from home. Tech. Sgt. Amos McCoy, 315 AGS, has a grandson to meet when he gets home. Others missed birthdays and graduations.

"What I miss most is helping my daughter with her school projects," Haskell said. "She e-mailed me and said she wished I was there to help her out. That was kind of hard."

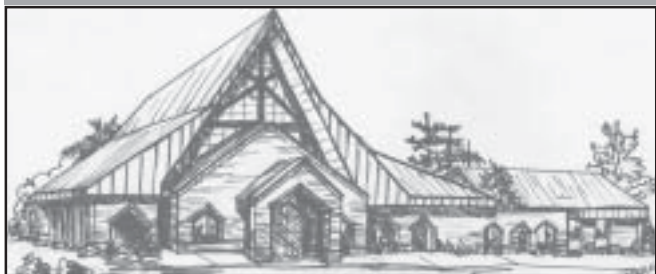
Replacements for McCoy, Haskell, Wicklund and the other CAFB maintainers at Kandahar arrived June 16, and in four days, the replacements were ready to take over.

Though they were all ready to get home, some of Team Charleston's deployed airmen said there were some things they'd miss about the desert, like the camaraderie and the people, but not enough to want to come back any time soon.



Senior Airman Joe Gohring, 437th Maintenance Squadron Aerospace Ground Equipment technician, fuels an air conditioning unit at Kandahar International Airport, Afghanistan.

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Phone: 963-2536. After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

Catholic Services

Saturday -- 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass.

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church.

Weekdays -- 11:30 a.m. Mass, Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For Sacrament of Marriage, call the Catholic chaplain six months prior to the wedding.

Protestant Services

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service, 11 a.m. Children's Church.

Thursday -- 7 p.m. Praise and Worship contemporary service in Bldg. 216 (old Chapel).

Buddhist: Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

Orthodox: Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader: David Sirull at 571-3264.

Islamic: Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

Movie schedule

Admission prices:

Adults/Children -- 99 cents

Any child under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (21 years old) to purchase an admission ticket for the minor child to view R-rated movies. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.



Movie schedules are provided by AAFES. Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times, which are subject to change.

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.

***"Enough"* – Jennifer Lopez**

Slim, an abused woman, discovers that Mitch, the dream man she married, wasn't who she thought he was. She and Grace, her daughter, try to escape, but he pursues relentlessly. She decides that there's only one way out of the marriage. **(PG-13) 115 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

***"Insomnia"* – Al Pacino**

A veteran police detective is sent to a small Alaskan town to investigate the murder of a teenage girl. Events escalate and the detective finds his own stability questioned. **(R) 118 minutes**

July 12, 7:30 p.m.

***"Undercover Brother"* – Eddie Griffin**

An underground movement has begun unleashing a terrifying top-secret weapon; a drug that will reduce the entire population to mindless zombies. However, a dedicated group of good guys, known as the B. R.O.T.H.E.R.H.O.O.D., are now braced for a showdown. **(PG-13) 86 minutes**

July 13, 2 p.m.

***"Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron"* – Animated (G) 82 minutes**

Fitness & Sports

Sports briefs

Council members: The Fitness and Sports Center is recruiting for 2002 squadron council members. Anyone interested in becoming a council member or a squadron sports representative can call Steve Parrish at 963-3348.

Hockey: The Charleston AFB Hurricanes ice hockey team will play Sunday, 7:15 p.m., at the Carolina Ice Palace.

Softball: There are softball games scheduled for Monday-Thursday, including SUP 1 vs. CS/SVS Monday, 5:30 p.m., at Field 1, and APS 1 vs. AGS Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., at Field 2.

Golf tournament: The Charleston AFB Top 3 Association is sponsoring a golf tournament July 26 at Wrenwoods Golf Course. Check in starts at 11:30 a.m., with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The entry fee is \$15. Green and cart fees apply also. Sign up at the golf course. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Matt Harless at 963-8004.

Women's league: An all women's sports league is being surveyed for basketball and volleyball fall sports leagues. Any interested women can call the Fitness and Sports Center at 963-3347.

Ready to run...

AF Marathon training getting heavy

By James Schlub

Wright-Patterson AFB HAWC

Hopefully, the idea of running an entire 26.2 miles doesn't seem as foreign to you now as the weeks and miles have been piling up since you began this marathon odyssey.

July and August are the final two months where you can continue to let fly with your workouts – pushing your body to increase fitness.

In September, recovery and rest rule the day as miles per week, strength training and intensity will decrease until race day. In September, you'll be putting a premium on recovery and rest to be prepared for the big day.

The regular runner left off the last week in June completing one specialty run, two easy six-mile runs, and a long run of 14 miles. You were also encouraged to find a local 5 or 10K to run sometime during the month. In

July, you will continue to increase length of long runs by one mile to reach 16 by week three and continue your easy six milers and one specialty run each week. Specialty workouts in July should include:

- Week 1 - one hour of hill repeats
- Week 2 - one hour of ¼- to ½-mile repeats with three-minute recovery jogs
- Week 3 - 45-minute tempo run; if you run a race (one max for the month) replace the specialty run that week with the race

Keep up your stretching and strengthening. Keep trying to recover as effectively as you can.

After your runs, make sure to stretch properly and sit with your legs up for 10-15 minutes. Cooling the legs and body off with water from your garden hose coupled with light massage at that time will feel great.

The improvements you attain from a fitness program are the result of your body properly responding to the stress of exercise.

U.S. Air Force Marathon

The U.S. Air Force Marathon is Sept. 21 at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio. The marathon has spots for individual and team competition. Registration fees are as follows:

- Individual or wheelchair runner - \$45
- Four-member relay team - \$160
- Three-five-member relay team - \$225

All competitors must complete a registration form with total payment. To receive a form, call 1-800-467-1832 or log on to <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil>.

For more information, call Eddie Goad at 963-4321 or Steve Parrish at 963-3347.